MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

5 JANUARY 1981

American Hostages

Diplomats' Transfer--According to Tehran radio, one of the officials in charge of the hostages at the prime minister's office announced that the Iranian Government transferred the three U.S. diplomats detained in the Foreign Ministry to another "appropriate place." AFP, reporting on the transfer, cited "informed sources" as suggesting that the three diplomats have been reunited with their colleagues. The news agency reported that Iranian Government spokesman Ahmad Azizi stressed that the transfer is not connected with the latest American response. Tehran radio earlier reported the arrival of the Algerian delegation carrying the latest American proposal to resolve the dispute.

Tehran Radio Commentaries--Tehran radio has carried numerous unattributed commentaries on the hostage situation. A commentary on 2 January reiterated that Iran is not seeking a "ransom" but has financial claims on the United States "based on undeniable documents and evidence." It added that "their trial can more than ever before lay bare the ugly face of U.S. imperialism" and demonstrate the "legitimacy" of Iran's claims. A commentary on 3 January forecast that the hostages issue would still be at an "impasse" on 20 January and that the Reagan administration will have to find a solution. It warned that the new president would be mistaken to think that Iran would show more leniency over time. Economic difficulties, the radio said, will not force Iran into a compromise. If the United States embarks on this "dangerous test," the commentary continued, the hostages will be put on trial and the United States will be humiliated. Another commentary described statements by President-elect Ronald Reagan about an ultimatum and possible military action as "personal adventurous solutions" that are "not taken seriously" in the United States.

Newspaper Comment--According to AFP, ISLAMIC REVOLUTION, a newspaper close to President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, asserted that the hostage issue has made Iran more, not less, dependent on both the "capitalist West and the so-called socialist East." Although ISLAMIC REVOLUTION defended the initial hostage taking, it argued that over time the issue has "frankly caused harm to the international struggle of the disinherited" and has led to a move to the right in the United States. The article criticized Iran's demands for the return of the shah's fortune as unrealistic and urged that responsibility for solving the hostage issue should be turned over to the Supreme Defense Council, headed by President Bani-Sadr.

Iran Domestic Affairs

Raja'i Interview--In an interview with the Bonn newspaper DIE WELT, Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i indirectly confirmed the existence of a power struggle in Iran. Raja'i said that a small section of military men and a tiny group of pro-Western, "so-called intellectuals, headed by Bani-Sadr" are confronted by Iran's clerical leadership. The prime minister's public relations office denied a BBC report on this interview and claimed that Raja'i has "so far given no interview to DIE WELT whatsoever." DPA subsequently reported that the DIE WELT editorial staff said there is "no reason to doubt the authenticity of the interview."

Challenge to Government--AFP reported that in a communique published in the national front newspaper, Tehran bazaar traders accused Prime Minister Raja'i of incompetence and demanded his resignation. Criticizing the present government's inability to solve Iran's mounting economic problems, the leader of Tehran's association of traders, businesses and artisans, Abolhasan Lebaschi, told AFP that Iran is "heading towards a more and more catastrophic situation." The bazaar, he said, should lead the national movement as it did under former Prime Minister Mohammed Mossadeq.

At a Friday prayer meeting, reported by Tehran radio, Supreme Court President Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti said it is "very unfair" to blame present economic difficulties on the government and explicitly rebutted the charges of the bazaar merchants. Beheshti went on to warn of a "conspiracy" currently being planned to create instability in Iran. Preaching at Tehran University mosque, Tehran's Friday Imam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, in a sermon carried by Tehran radio's Arabic service, warned against "agent elements" attempting to "fragment the ranks from inside" and seeking to "spread complaints." "Any strike or sit-in," he warned, "will be considered an act of treason against Muslims."

Justice Minister Resignation--In an interview reported by Tehran radio, Justice Minister Ebrahim Ahadi confirmed that he has submitted his resignation owing to a difference of opinion with the Council of Guardians over the extent of his powers.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

'Inertia' Issue--Tehran radio reported that the governor general's office in Khuzestan, the society of Khuzestan clergy and Islamic military and civilian organizations in Dezful sent cables of support for Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri following his earlier call for an Iranian offensive and an end to the current delay. The Khuzestan clergymen spoke of "dissatisfaction" in the province over the "state of inertia and the failure to issue orders to attack," while the cable from Dezful called for a resolution of the "enigma" of Iran's failure to attack. The Khuzestan governor general's office praised the role of the "combative clergy" in the war and noted the presence of over 600 clergymen at the frontline. However, the cable warned of Iraqi-inspired plots to create discord between the clergy and revolution guards on the one hand and the armed forces on the other.

AFP reported that Islamic Republican Party leader Ayatollah Beheshti also supported Montazeri's calls for action, telling a Friday prayers meeting: "All of the Iranian people are asking themselves why their army is not going into the attack." Tehran radio reported that the command council of the revolution guards corps issued a statement supporting Montazeri and asserting that with the clergy's guidance "shortcomings will be rectified."

Tehran radio, on the other hand, reported that President Bani-Sadr responded to Montazeri's challenge by urging him to study the situation in Khuzestan first hand, meet commanders at the fronts and "begin a tradition of research into these affairs." The radio later reported that in reply to Bani-Sadr's cable, Montazeri said Bani-Sadr would have done better to telephone him over his anxiety about the conduct of the war rather than replying openly in a manner which might harm morale. Asserting that he is in touch with a wide range of opinion cognizant with the situation at the fronts, Montazeri called for a "speedy, complete expulsion of the enemy" from Iran.

An unattributed Tehran radio commentary supported Montazeri's call for action and urged a "final attack" to defeat both the Iraqi invaders and internal conspiracies. The radio urged the "final destruction" of the Iraqi forces before spring, while they are still in disarray and before they have the chance to acquire new weapons and train new personnel. In this connection the radio mentioned the impending delivery of 100 French Mirage aircraft and tanks to Iraq, the training of Iraqi pilots in Saudi Arabia and reports that Iraq has recently received 150 Soviet T-72 tanks. The commentary claimed that so far Iraq has lost 215 airplanes, about 3,000 tanks and 20,000 killed or wounded in the course of the war. Ahvaz radio earlier cited "travelers from Iraq" as revealing that the Soviet Union has delivered 150 T-72 tanks to the Iraqi Army.

Bani-Sadr Speech--In a speech at an unspecified airbase, reported by Tehran radio, President Bani-Sadr told pilots that whereas at the beginning of the war Iran's air power compensated for weakness on the ground, now its ground forces are in a state of readiness. It is now time, the president said, to compensate for earlier frustrations and inflict fierce blows on the enemy. However, the Yugoslav news agency TANJUG reported that in his speech Bani-Sadr also criticized the Iranian mass media for acting more to the advantage of the enemy.

Iraqi Defense Minister Statement--Iraqi Defense Minister Staff Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah, in a press statement reported by INA, said Iraqi confidence has been heightened after 4 months of fighting and Iraq has realized "almost" all its objectives. A war of attrition, he said, would only hurt the Iranian people, adding that the Iranians "are incapable of launching a major counterattack or anything that can affect the situation on the front." The defense minister asserted that Iraq retains the initiative in the war and may be compelled to inflict "graver losses" on Iran should Tehran persist in its "aggressive" stand toward Iraq and te Gulf states. Months of fighting have given Iraq "priceless experience," the general said, adding that the "positive effects" derived from the "short-term battle" with Iran will help the Arab nation during "the next struggle with Tel Aviv."

Military Situation--Tehran radio reported that Iranian forces launched a "coordinated and extensive offensive" on the Gilan-e Gharb front which pushed Iraqi troops back 8 km, killing more than 150. An Iraqi General Command communique, carried by INA, confirmed the Iranian attack but claimed that the Iranian troops were forced to retreat and that 47 were killed. INA reported further clashes around Mehran, Dezful and Susangerd with renewed Iraqi shelling of Ahvaz and Abadan.

Syrian-Jordanian Relations

An unattributed commentary carried by Damascus radio characterized as "lies and fabrications" an Amman radio report that 200 people have been massacred in the Syrian city of Aleppo. The commentary went on to describe relations between Syria and Jordan as not "good or befitting required relations between two Arab countries" and scored King Husayn for his ties to the United States and "infringements" on the rights of the PLO.

Egypt

According to MENA, Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali told the newspaper AS-SIYASI that President Anwar as-Sadat, Prime Minister Menahem Begin and President-elect Ronald Reagan are to hold a tripartite summit in March.

Pakistan

Foreign Minister Agha Shahi has asked UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to appoint a special representative to initiate talks among Pakistan, Iran and Afghanistan aimed at finding a political solution to the Afghan crisis. In a letter to Waldheim, reported by Karachi radio, Agha Shahi said that "favorable conditions" now exist for "serious talks" among the parties.

YAR

In an interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper AS-SIYASAH, an official for the PDRY-based National Democratic Front said that the front's forces have been involved in clashes with YAR troops since 24 October, confirming earlier reports of fighting in the country. The front official added that negotiations between the front and the Yemeni Government are now suspended.

FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 002 5 January 1981

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

PAKISTAN

Foreign Office Denies Pakistani Troops in DRA F 1
Shahi Saks Waldheim To Initiate Talks on DRA F 1
Accusations of Anti-Indian Press Campaign Denied F 1
PRC Military Delegation Concludes Visit to Pakistan F 1

IRAN

Three Hostages Transferred From Foreign Ministry I 1
AFP Report I 1
Further AFP Report I 1
Tehran Reports Arrival of Algerian Delegation I 1
Deputy Tells AFP Final U.S. Reply Unacceptable I 2
Tehran Views Recent Events Involving Hostage Issue I 2
Commentary Broadcast on Hostage Release Conditions I 3
Tehran: Hostage Trial Can Reveal U.S. Imperialism I 3
Tehran: Leniency on Hostages 'Wishful Thinking' I 5
Ahvaz Says U.S. Playing Tricks With Hostage Issue I 6
World View of 'End of Hostage Crisis' Explained I 7
Paper: Hostage Execution May Serve U.S. Interests [AFP] I 8
Khomeyni Speech to Iranian Ambassadors, Students I 9
Khomeyni's 3 Jan Speech to Sorush Journalists I 10
Khomeyni Meets With Rafsanjani, Others 5 Jan I 11
Bani-Sadr Assails Saddam Husayn on War I 11
Beheshti, Khamene'i Speak on Economy, Traitors I 12
Beheshti Lectures Ambassadors on Overseas Duties I 13
Rafsanjani Addresses Envoys on Foreign Policy I 14
Majlis Speaker Cited on Constitutional Issues I 14
DIE WELT Interviews Raja'i on Hostages, Government [5 Jan] I 16
Raja'i's Office Disclaims Interview I 17
DIE WELT: Interview Authentic I 18
Raja'i Addresses Bushehr Friday Congregation I 18
Raja'i Returns to Tehran From Bushehr Visit I 19
Raja'i Attends Foreign Ministry Seminar I 19
Justice Minister Ahadi Comments on Resignation I 19
Tehran Warns Reagan To Act With Restraint I 20
Zahedan Radio Comments on Kissinger's Mideast Tour I 21
Tehran: Anglican Envoy Attests Iranian Honor I 21
Tehran: Maintaining Jordan-Syrian Tension U.S. Aim I 22
16 Iraqis Reportedly Killed in Antigovernment Riot I 22
Paper Says France Giving Opponents Facilities [AFP] I 23
Armed Forces Joint Staff Communiques 356, 357 I 23
356: 1 Jan Fighting I 23
357: 3 Jan Wrapup I 24
Ahvaz Radio Claims USSR Sent 150 T-72 Tanks to Iraq I 25
JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI on Iraqi Mojahedin Operations I 25
Iraqi Mojahedin, Government Forces Clash I 25

FOREIGN OFFICE DENIES PAKISTANI TROOPS IN DRA

BK020928 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Jan 81

[Text] Pakistan has once again stressed that the political solution of the Afghan crisis should be sought on the basis of the UN resolution of 20 November 1980. A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad yesterday that Pakistan is ready to cooperate fully to initiate political negotiations according to the resolution under the supervision of the United Nations.

The foreign office spokesman described as totally baseless the allegation leveled by a foreign broadcast that about 100 Pakistani troops had been sent to capture the Afghan city of Qandahar on 27 December. The spokesman said that Pakistan strictly adheres to the policy of noninterference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and hence the question of sending Pakistani troops to the other side of the international border does not arise.

SHAHI ASKS WALDHEIM TO INITIATE TALKS ON DRA

BK031555 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Text] Pakistan has asked the UN secretary general to initiate a dialogue between Pakistan, Iran and the representatives of PDPA under his supervision and presence or under a special representative appointed by him to find a political solution to the Afghan crisis. Foreign Minister Agha Shahi in a letter to Dr Waldheim requested him to appoint a special representative for this purpose.

He told newsmen in Islamabad this evening that we think that favorable conditions now exist for the UN secretary general to take this step. He said that we are now beginning a stage with the hope that a solution will be reached through serious talks which will be consistent with the national rights of the Afghan people and which will fulfill the expectations of the Soviet Union and the security demands of Pakistan and Iran. He said that the solution of the problem will strengthen peace and stability in our region, increase understanding and create an atmosphere conducive to a dialogue between the big powers in this regard. Similarly, it will also pave the way for resolving other complicated issues and problems which will stabilize international peace and security.

ACCUSATIONS OF ANTI-INDIAN PRESS CAMPAIGN DENIED

BK051043 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 5 Jan 81

[Text] The Pakistan Embassy in New Delhi has denied accusations in the Indian press that the press in Pakistan was engaged in building up an anti-Indian campaign. A press release by the embassy said some statements and reports in the Indian press had tended to create such an unfounded impression. It said on the contrary the dominant impression emerging from a study of news of Pakistani newspapers depicted a desire for further improvement of Indo-Pakistan relations.

PRC MILITARY DELEGATION CONCLUDES VISIT TO PAKISTAN

BK250926 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 25 Dec 80

[Text] The leader of the Chinese good-will military delegation, Han Huaizhi, yesterday laid flowers at the tomb of Quid-e Azam in Karachi yesterday. Later, the delegation met corp commander Lt Gen Ahmad Jamal Khan at the corp headquarters. The members of the delegation also visited the staff colleges of Pakistan's navy and the air force.

[Karachi Domestic Service in English at 1005 GMT on 25 December notes that the military mission left Karachi for Beijing on 25 December.]

THREE HOSTAGES TRANSFERRED FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY

LD041052 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1043 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, one of the officials in charge of the hostages at the office of the prime minister announced that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, considering the present conditions, has transferred the three American hostages held by the Iranian nation--formerly residing at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs--to another appropriate place.

AFP Report

NC040907 Paris AFP in English 0903 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Text] Tehran, 4 Jan (AFP)--The three American diplomats held hostage in the Iranian Foreign Ministry here have been transferred amid speculation they may have joined their 49 colleagues also held hostage in Iran. Government spokesman Ahmad Azizi said the trio had been moved to a "more appropriate place of detention," without saying where. But informed sources here suggested the diplomats, who were visiting the ministry when the Islamic militants stormed the U.S. Embassy in November 1979, had been reunited with their colleagues. Such a transfer would mean that all the hostages would be held under the same status, probably in Tehran, now that the Iranian Government has taken responsibility for the hostages held here for 14 months, the sources added.

The Swiss Embassy, which looks after U.S. interests in Iran, said it knew nothing of the transfer. Diplomats said they were seeking an explanation for the move from the Foreign Ministry. Swiss diplomats had previously been allowed to visit the three Americans, including Charge d'Affairs Bruce Laingen.

Algeria's ambassador in Tehran, Abdelkarim Ghraieb, was told of the move, Mr Azizi said. Mr. Ghraieb, who is here as part of a three-man Algerian delegation discussing the terms for the hostages' release, confirmed the report, adding that he had been advised of the move late yesterday. Mr Azizi added that the transfer was not connected to the latest U.S. reply to Iranian conditions, delivered here Friday by the Algerian delegation, which is acting as an intermediary in the affair.

Consultations continued all yesterday between the Iranian authorities, but no details of the talks emerged.

Further AFP Report

NC041052 Paris AFP in English 1049 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Tehran, 4 Jan (AFP)--The three U.S. diplomats detained in Iran's Foreign Ministry here have been moved to a new site amid speculation they may have joined their 49 colleagues also held hostage for 14 months today. A Swiss diplomat said he was told by the Iranian Foreign Ministry that all 52 hostages seized by Islamic militants at the U.S. Embassy were now "in the hands of the government" here. The Swiss diplomat, Flavio Meroni, said he went to the Foreign Ministry this morning and was told that the three U.S. envoys were moved to their new quarters late last night.

The Swiss Embassy, which looks after U.S. interests in Iran and was allowed to send representatives to visit the three American diplomats, said it was seeking a precise explanation for the move.

TEHRAN REPORTS ARRIVAL OF ALGERIAN DELEGATION

LD022002 Tehran in English to Europe 1950 GMT 2 Jan 81

[Text] According to PARS, the Algerian delegation working out the hostages issue between Iran and the United States today entered Iran from Washington via Algeria. Based on the same report, this delegation has brought with it the latest American suggestion with regard to the freeing of the hostages.

DEPUTY TELLS AFP FINAL U.S. REPLY UNACCEPTABLE

NC051007 Paris AFP in English 1007 GMT 5 Jan 81

[Text] Tehran, 5 Jan (AFP)--The final American reply to Iranian conditions for the release of the 52 hostages held in Tehran for 14 months is unacceptable, a leading Iranian deputy said today.

Hassan Ayat, a leader of the majority Islamic Republican Party, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that he was aware of the American reply, delivered by Algerian intermediaries on Friday and the sum of 5,000 or 6,000 million dollars offered in guarantee by Washington was far too low. The American Government has said it is prepared to pay the money into an account in Algeria, to be made available to Iran on release of the hostages.

Asked if the hostages would be tried, Mr Ayat said that a decison would be taken on this when Iran was certain that the United States "did not want to resolve the issue."

TEHRAN VIEWS RECENT EVENTS INVOLVING HOSTAGE ISSUE

LD021616 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1347 GMT 2 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary: "Analysis of World and Iranian Political Events During the Past Week"]

[Excerpt] World news agencies referred to last week as one for the end of the crisis involving the hostages taken by the Iranian nation. During the first days of the past week the Algerian diplomats left Iran carrying a proposal, described by the Iranian Government as its last proposal. A government spokesman announced: The proposal once again reflects the Iranian nation's four special demands, previously voiced by the imam and later endorsed by the representatives of the people. And, considering the U.S. President's and government's limitations, solutions were proposed aimed at facilitating U.S. measures.

The first reactions of the U.S. Government and Western media swamped the world's people with a wave of amazement as Washington's political quarters, making use of the propaganda mouthpieces of world Zionism, raised a hue and cry that Iran had demanded that a sum of $24 billion be deposited in an Algerian bank. In other words, Iran's legitimate demands with regard to the freeing of its currency resources and deposits and the Iranian Government's lawful possessions were interpreted as a demand for ransom. It was in this connection that the Iranian Government, in order to neutralize the effects of the U.S. State Department's propaganda, arranged for a direct interview between the prime minister and all foreign ambassadors resident in Iran in order to explain to world public opinion the Iranian Government's legitimate and just positions in its last proposal.

Subsequently, the U.S. Government planned to resort to new tricks, and this solution was embodied in the personal adventurism of Mr Reagan, the new U.S. president-elect, who referred to the Iranian students as savages and barbarians. He said that should the hostage issue remain unresolved until the beginning of his term of office he would give Iran a 72-hour deadline for the release of the hostages declaring that the outcome of not freeing the U.S. hostages would be a military attack.

Simultaneous with this political maneuver, the Western mass media and such venal radios as those of Israel and Cologne disseminated the rumor about the occupation of three strategic Iranian islands in the Strait of Hormuz. A U.S. general even proposed a plan for mining Iranian harbors and for attacking, occupying and then destroying all installations on Khark Island. However, the speedy reaction of the United States, following the views expressed by the Iranian authorities and even those expressed by high-ranking U.S. officials, including the U.S. attorney general, was that Reagan's remarks should not be taken seriously, referring to them as a form of politcal balancing act. As a result, Reagan himself implicitly retracted his own remarks, referring to them as personal remarks.

Simultaneous with these statements, the Voice of America's calm tones and those statements by U.S. official quarters, John Trattner, the White House spokesman [as heard] last Wednesday morning announced that after 3 days of talks on the hostage issue with the Algerian diplomats--whom Western agencies described as professional diplomats and logical politicians--the U.S. final proposals were handed over to the three Algerian liaison diplomats. John Trattner, quoting Carter's statements, referred to the only demand of the United States, as the release of all the hostages and the safeguarding of U.S. honor and dignity. Moreover, he explained that Iran's four demands were taken into consideration in the U.S. final proposal and that sufficient guarantees for safeguarding these demands were also taken into consideration.

Following this it was said that the U.S. Government was taking preliminary steps to deposit over $6 billion from Iran's uncontested deposits in one of the Algerian banks proposed by Iran. This was what prompted the news agencies to refer to the current week as one for ending the hostage crisis.

COMMENTARY BROADCAST ON HOSTAGE RELEASE CONDITIONS

LD022220 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2102 GMT 2 Jan 81

[Commentary by Dr Hoseyn (Abutarabian): "World Press and the Iranian Revolution"]

[Text] Once again this week we witnessed yet another telling blow dealt by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran against the foundations of power of the world oppressors and the mighty. By revealing the text of two letters sent by the United States in reply to the terms set by Iran for the release of the hostages, Iran has once again exposed the filthy and devious nature of the U.S. Government to the world and has demonstrated to the whole world how the ruling organs in the United States are based on lies, corruption and futility.

If we study the texts of the two letters sent by the U.S. Government to Iran which were handed over to the Islamic Republic Government by the Algerian representatives on 12 November and 4 December, we can clearly see that the United States has implicity accepted all the terms set for the release of the hostages and has produced the U.S. President's signature as a guarantee for the implementation of Iran's demands. However, in Iran's last reply, which was made public by the government last week before being received by U.S. authorities, we only saw two points, neither offering any new problem [mas'aleh]. [Sentence as heard--commentary is interrupted at this point and is followed by Tehran radio signature tune and recitals from the Koran]

TEHRAN: HOSTAGE TRIAL CAN REVEAL U.S. IMPERIALISM

LD030030 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2205 GMT 2 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The publication of the Iranian Government's final reply to America with regard to the return of some of the usurped Iranian nation's rights led imperialism once again to give top priority in its media to the issue of U.S. spies posing as diplomats. Not a day passes without a false rumor being spread by the White House and liars posing as spokesmen or advisers about the hostages and their fate. This is aimed at fomenting the spurious and hostile climate created at the international level against the Islamic Republic of Iran and its brave and courageous people; little do they know that the valiant and Muslim people of Iran have repeatedly demonstrated that despite all difficulties, plots and obstructions they are determined to resist to the last drop of their blood international imperialism and its agents in the region, and that this rumormongering cannot have the slightest effect on the will of this heroic nation.

One day they claim that Iran is planning to strike a deal involving the exchange of hostages in return for spare parts; the next day they claim that the hostages have been mistreated, with Reagan, elected representative of American trusts and cartels, deviously claiming that deep down they feel angry against the jailers who every day keep proposing new terms for the release of the hostages. Then they claim that in return for the release of the hostages Iran has asked for a $23-billion ransom from America, and that payment of such a sum is contrary to America's national honor.

If we carefully study the text of Iran's final reply it becomes clear that Iran's financial claims are based on undeniable documents and evidence which can be corroborated and accepted by any impartial international source. Contrary to what imperialist mass media claim, there is no question of ransom involved. Some of Iran's claims against the United States include $9,069,000,000 of deposits, revolving funds and treasury bonds which are held by American banks and their European branches. If we assume the rate of interest in America and Europe to be a minimum of 20 percent, then the total sum amounts to $12 billion. As for the assets and the property which the deceased shah and his shameful family plundered from Iran during 37 years of domination over Iran, the case is quite clear: The sum for which Iran is seeking a guarantee from America is less than the commissions which American companies deposited from the generous treasury of this nation as bribes in the account of this noble family in payment for the purchase of arms and military equipment as well as other notorious deals.

Consequently, as may be seen, Iran has made no other claim, apart from its legitimate claims, which could be called ransom. As for the imaginary claim made by America in connection with the mistreatment of the hostages, this is nothing new either. Fortunately the film which was made of the Christmas service held by the hostages and which was also televised by U.S. television networks and the statement made by the Algerian ambassador in Iran make it quite clear that the claims are a sheer lie a hundred times over, for everyone realizes that not only has there not been the slightest deterioration, either physical or mental so far as the spies are concerned, but rather, considering the comfort and proper feeding as well as humanitarian care by their hosts, referred to by America now as jailers, they have become fatter, bigger and more jovial than in the period when they were staying at the spy nest.

As for the final point raised by the United States, there is the contrast between payment of Iranian claims and America's national honor. For a country that has been bleeding the oppressed peoples of the world for years and has not refrained from resorting to the harshest crimes against humanity to promote the interest of the cartels and trusts which are the main puppeteers of America's policy to talk of national honor takes considerable cheek.

It is a source of pleasure that in the last 14 months as a result of documents made public by the Muslim student followers of the imam's policy, as well as by other combative and committed groups the nature of many plots and intrigues hatched by U.S. imperialism was made quite clear. In view of the fact that a number of these spies operating as diplomats have been directly and knowingly involved in these plots, their trial can more than ever before lay bare the ugly face of U.S. imperialism and more decisively demonstrate the legitimacy of the Iranian nation in raising its claims.

The events of the last year and few months clearly showed that America is simply shedding crocodile tears for the release of the hostages and that it is not prepared to take any positive measures in practice to have its spies released.

TEHRAN: LENIENCY ON HOSTAGES 'WISHFUL THINKING'

LD030707 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0450 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Just as the Vietnam war, started by Johnson, was left for Nixon as a cursed legacy, so now, with the events that have evolved, another legacy has been left for Ronald Reagan.

Naturally Carter, who has been defeated in the American presidential election, deems it unnecessary to haggle for the freedom of the hostages, for the presidential election is over and he could not receive more votes with the release of the hostages in order to remain at the White House for 4 more years. Carter, from the Democratic Party, prefers the problem that has defeated him to burden Reagan also. The hostile stance adopted by Edmund Muskie, who described Iran's conditions as unacceptable, is to be understood in the same connection. But if Jimmy Carter were to turn his back on this issue, the problem of the hostages would be not only a burden to the Democrats. With the propaganda that the imperialists have started over this issue, naturally the government of Ronald Reagan should make an effort toward this issue [as heard]. But what stands out at present regarding the hostages is nothing but a joint incident making [jareyan sezi-ye moshtarek].

Pope John Paul II, in a speech at a gathering of cardinals, prayed tearfully and asked everybody to pray for the freedom of those who are innocently in captivity and are captives of financial equations [mo'adelat-e mali] and political dealings [mo'amelat-e siasi]. The pope's reference to financial equations is due to U.S. propaganda regarding the amount that the Iranian Government has asked as surety in return for releasing the hostages, as a guarantee that America accepts the proposals of the National Consultative Assembly. Also in the same connection, the Western press started propagandistic attacks on Iran.

What can be forecast is that by 20 January--when the Carter administration vacates the White House for the Zionist clique of Reagan--the (?issue) of the hostages will remain at an impasse, as it is now, and the Reagan administration will have to find a solution for it in the beginning of its reign. But if Reagan does not think of something to solve the issue right now, and if he relies on wishful thinking that the Iranian Government may show more leniency, he will be making a great mistake.

The Iranian Government would certainly not fall in [as heard] a revolutionary stance in this connection and would retreat from its stands. But, according to another interpretation, perhaps the U.S. calculation on the issue is that by rejecting Iran's demands it would be leaving the Islamic revolution alone with its problems. If we consider this matter in conjunction with all the calamities which have been perpetrated upon revolutionary governments by colonialists after every revolution, perhaps this is not an incorrect interpretation.

It is best to appraise the West's policies from various angles. The United States thinks that if it continues to resist against Iran's demands, Iran will remain in political isolation, which--in the opinion of the West--is one of the problems that have tipped the political balance against Iran in the Iran-Iraq war; hence, the United States prefers the issue to remain as it is. For if the issue of the hostages were to be resolved by accepting Iran's proposals, then returning the shah's wealth and Iran's deposits and frozen assets would help Iran economically. On the other hand, the economic blockade would be broken and the pressure on the revolution would relax. With this in mind, the West prefers the Iranian revolution to be under more pressure.

In America's opinion economic difficulties, especially in wartime--interruption of oil exports and the fall in Iran's foreign currency reserves--will ultimately force Iran into some sort of compromise. But such wishful thinking by the Americans would be as vain as the rest of their wishful thinking. For, if they think that we would forego our conditions for the release of the hostages, they are greatly mistaken. Then it would be up to the U.S. Government to answer to American public opinion in connection with the hostages' crisis. It does not make any difference whether the problem is solved by the Democratic Party during the Carter administration's tenure--which seems totally improbable--or by Ronald Reagan and the Republican Party during the next administration's tenure.

If the Democratic Party wishes to leave this cursed legacy for the Reagan administration and let it solve the problem of the hostages, the basic issue would be unaltered. The United States is obliged to solve this problem; naturally the problem would be solved only if--Western wishful thinking set aside--the United States were to accept Iran's proposals.

If the United States thinks that Iran will show more leniency in connection with this issue, it is greatly mistaken. It would be better if the United States were not to embark on this dangerous test, in which case the United States would witness the trial of the American hostages and the disgrace of the imperialist policies in the region and in Iran.

AHVAZ SAYS U.S. PLAYING TRICKS WITH HOSTAGE ISSUE

GF031945 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Arabic 1540 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary: "The Issue of the Spy Hostages Held by the Iranian People and U.S. Hegemonic Policy"]

[Text] News circles reported that last week was the final week in the crisis involving the UlS. hostages held by the Iranian people. AT the end of last week, the Algerian mediators left the Islamic Republic carrying the Majlis-approved government proposals. An Iranian Government spokesman announced that the proposals included the four conditions set by the leading imam and were approved by the people through their Majlis deputies.

Considering the authority of U.S. President and Government, the Iranian Government proposed solutions to facilitate the mediation mission after the U.S. Government had initially approved it. But what happened to the solutions proposed by the Islamic Republic to facilitate the U.S. Government procedures considering the administration's limited authority? The U.S. reaction, through government spokesman and news media, was surprising and strange. It bewildered and puzzled the world's masses. Diplomatic circles in Washington began to sound their trumpets through the Zionist-hired news media, saying that Iran was calling for depositing a $24 billion "tax" in Algerian banks as a guarantee of performance. In other words, Iran's legitimate demand with regard to freeing its currency resources, deposits and assets which the United States had seized contrary to international and banking norms were interpreted as a demand for ransom. Therefore, the Iranian Government held a press conference attended by the prime minister and foreign ambassadors accredited to the Islamic Republic to counter the misleading U.S. media on this issue. The government of the revolution stated the just claims of the Iranian people and clarified them before world opinion.

Consequently, the U.S. Government began to seek new tricks through which it could rescue its world rejected stand. One trick was played by the U.S. president-elect, Ronald Reagan, who described the students holding the hostages as "savages" and "barbarians" and announced that he would give Iran a 72-hour ultimatum for the hostages' release. If the issue were not solved peacefully, a U.S. military attack would be launched against the Islamic Republic's territory.

These political manuevers were coupled with hired and misleading Western news media, such as Israel radio and Cologne radio, which circulated rumors of a possible U.S. occupation of the three strategic Iranian islands in the Strait of Hormuz. A U.S. general proposed the mining of Iranian ports or attacking and setting ablaze the vital oil and economic installations on Khark Island.

Iran's reaction and its steadfast stands, coming from its principles and the struggle of alive and revolutionary people determined to counter any imperialist aggression to the last breath, stimulated reaction by U.S. politicians that made them go back on this stand. Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark announced that he didn't take Reagan's statements seriously. Other U.S. politicians described Reagan's statements as the kind a "political cowboy" might make. The matter went so far that Reagan retreated on his stand and called his statement "personal."

Such retreats by U.S. politicians were followed by lenient tones of U.S. radios and the statement of White House [as heard] spokesman John Trattner last Wednesday when he announced that the United States had stated its final proposals after a 3-day controversy with the mediating Algerian diplomats who were described by Western media as professional diplomats and logical politicians. In his statement Trattner, quoting Carter, said the U.S. proposals were meant to secure the release of the hostages while preserving U.S. honor and dignity. He pointed out that the four Iranian conditions were taken into consideration in the U.S. final proposals and that sufficient guarantees will be secured to meet the Iranian claims. They were followed by statements that the United States had taken initial steps to deposit $6 billion of Iranian assets with an Algerian bank, as Iran stipulated.

This is how the negotiations went, with the United States claiming it would settle things peacefully. The coming days will reveal if that is true.

WORLD VIEW OF 'END OF HOSTAGES CRISIS' EXPLAINED

LD040345 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0114 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] World press circles called last week the week of the end of the Iranian nation's hostages crisis. During the first days of last week the Algerian diplomats (left) Iran with proposals (that) were termed final proposals by the Iranian Government. The government spokesman announced that in this proposal the four (demands) of the Iranian nation that had previously been stated by the iman and later approved by the representatives of the people were (raised) again. Considering the limitations [on the authority] of the U.S. president and government, solutions were proposed in order to simplify the (issue).

The first reaction of the U.S. Government and the Western press (astounded) the world's people. The Washington political circles, utilizing the propaganda machinery affiliated with international Zionism, objected that Iran had requested that a $24 billion guarantee be deposited in an Algerian bank. Others said that Iran's rightful requests, involving the release of foreign currency reserves, deposits and lawful assets of the Iranian Government, amounted to extortion. It was in this connection that, in order to neutralize the effects of U.S. State Department propaganda, the Iranian Government arranged a face-to-face interview between the prime minister and all foreign ambassadors in Iran, so that the Iranian Government could inform world public opinion of the lawful and rightful stands of the Iranian Government in past proposals [as heard].

Thus America embarked on a new ploy; this was the personal adventurous solutions proposed by Mr Reagan, the U.S. president-elect, who called the Iranian students savage and barbarian. He said that if the issue of the hostages is not solved before the start of his reign, he would give a 72-hour ultimatum to Iran for the release of the hostages. He said that the consequences of not releasing the U.S. hostages would be military invasion.

Simultaneously with this [word indistinct], the Western mass media and the puppet radios--especially radio Israel and radio Cologne--spread the rumor of the occupation of the (three) strategic Iranian islands in the Strait of Hormuz; an American general even proposed a plan for mining Iranian ports, or invading, occupying and blowing up all Khark Island installations. But following comments by Iranian officials and even high-ranking U.S. officials including the U.S. attorney general, the quick American reaction stated, in effect, that Reagan's comments are not taken seriously, and called them a form of political cowboy drama. It reached a point where Reagan himself withdrew his comments (categorically) and called them personal comments.

Simultaneously with these remarks and the calm tone of the Voice of America and U.S. officials, White House spokesman John Trattner announced last Wednesday morning: After 3 days of talks with the Algerian deiplomats mediating in the hostages crisis--whom Western news agencies have called professional diplomats and logical statesmen--the final American proposals were handed over to the three Algerian intermediaries.

John Trattner said, quoting Carter, that the sole American request was the release of all the hostages and the preservation of American's honor and prestige; he explained that Iran's four requests had been allowed for in America's final proposal, and that adequate guarantees had been allocated in order to accommodate these requests [as heard]. After this statement the U.S. Government prepared the grounds for depositing more than $6 billion of Iran's unclaimed [belamo' arez] deposits in one of the Algerian banks proposed by Iran. That is why the news agencies called last week the end of the hostages crisis.

PAPER: HOSTAGE EXECUTION MAY SERVE U.S. INTERESTS

NC041958 Paris AFP in English 1920 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Text] Tehran, 4 Jan (AFP)--The United States let so many young men die in Vietnam that it would not worry about the execution of 52 hostages and this may even serve Washington's interests, ISLAMIC REVOLUTION, the newspaper close to President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, said today. If the American hostages are tried, found guilty and executed, Washington will be able to claim afterwards that it did everything in its power to save them, the article added.

The newspaper concluded by asking whether the hostage issue had not, after all, made Iran more, not less, dependent on both the "capitalist West and the so-called socialist East".

The article took the line that the hostages issue was increasingly hiding much more important problems, such as that of the Iranian money still frozen in the U.S. or dragging economic production.

Defending the initial hostage-taking as a legitimate move by "the popular movement of the oppressed," the paper argued that Iran had failed to exploit its advantage when it was still in a position of force. Meanwhile, the move had "frankly caused harm to the international struggle of the disinherited." Thus, the paper added, it had led to "the return of former President Richard Nixon and General Alexander Haig" to the political forefront "despite the fact that they had been chased from the White House." It had led to an increase in the American military budget, brought a U.S. fleet into the Gulf and put into power America's toughest political clan.

The article criticized Iranian demands for the return of the shah's fortune from the U.S. as unrealistic, "when it is not even clear how many dollars of that fortune are still in that country" and the 10,000 million-dollar deposit demanded must "evidently" be cleared by a parliament, the U.S. Congress, that will not comply, seeing its notorious hostility towards Iran.

Responsibility for solving the hostage issue should be turned over to the Iranian Defense Council under Mr Bani-Sadr, the paper suggested.

KHOMEYNI SPEECH TO IRANIAN AMBASSADORS, STUDENTS

LD041442 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1100 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Speech by Ayatollah Khomeyni to the ambassadors and charge d'affaires of the Islamic Republic of Iran as well as representatives of student associations abroad at his residence of 4 January--recorded, duration 27 minutes]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I pray to God Almighty for the health of all you gentlemen who have returned to your own country from abroad, either as members of embassies or as students.

I feel that you who live abraod, whether working at embassies or studying abroad, have a more difficult task than we have at home, for our nation is in a position to note the terms and aspects of Islam, and should a group or an individual act contrary to Islamic principles, the nation would immediately denounce that group or individual. However, in your case, you live in places like the West, or in nations which are not Muslim, or even if they are Muslim, they do not pay proper attention to it as they should. Therefore, if in these places your lead a certain way of life which is not precisely in line with Islam, then you would be asked: Is that what they call Islam? If our embassies abroad were to behave as they did during the satanic period or in a similiar fashion, then this would mean that Islam has not yet penetrated our embassies.

I have unfortunately learned, while noting their activities recently, that our embassies are not Isalmic embassies as they are expected to be, either in (?regulations) or in the quality of their personnel, especially their female employees [words indistinct].

The ambassadors who used to be sent abroad by the prophet, peace be upon him, would upon their arrival, draw back the silk curtains with their swords. This was a way of crushing the pharaoh-like mentality of monarchs in those days. It may look simple, but is is not. These people were simple Arabs, believing in Islam. What they wanted to achieve was to convey an understanding of their situation, that they enjoyed a certain kind of religion and that such glory and pomposity would not impress them. There were, and are, a great many people who, facing someone whom they believe to be senior to them, lose control.

The later Moddares [a prominent mullah and deputy for Esfahan in the early days of the Majlis] had a certain habit. What he used to do was to sit on his blanket in his courtyard; when he wanted to smoke his waterpipe, he would prepare it personally. Once, when he was doing just that, the commander arrived. You must remember that in those days a commander wielded great powers. At any rate, what Moddares would do was to ask the commander to supply the water for the waterpipe, while he was preparing the charcoal. This act would subsequently result in the commander's losing face; simply by being asked to supply the water for the waterpipe, the commander would be impressed and influenced. The moral of the story is to deal with corrupt minds in such a manner as stop them from (?insulting) others.

When you are abroad, you come into contact with other ambassadors, foreign ministers and so forth. Now suppose you were to pay a visit to a Foreign Ministry abroad: Do not lose your self-control, believing that you are at a grand place, whether it be in front of the U.S. secretary of state or the Soviet foreign minister. What you must expect and remember is that you are the ambassador from an Islamic country, a country more powerful than all these powers, a country enjoying higher honor--should we assume they have any. Consequently, from the very beginning you must try to safeguard your prestige. One of the important issues which you gentlemen, like we ourselves, are required to deal with is the gradual export of our revolution to the country where your reside through your attitude, through your dealings with the staff as well as the situation created in your embassies.

Moral issues are issues which once adhered to and observed, spread. People are by nature and temperament good; it is because of the way they have been brought up that their nature and temperament go wrong. You must bear in mind that you are entering a country which you want to educate like that of your own, that you want to export Islam into that country as well. To export Islam depends on Islamic morale, Islamic customs, Islamic (?accord); they should be presented in such a manner so as to attract the people's attention. An important factor in this respect is the publication of a periodical by each embassy.

May God give you health; may God enable all of your to strengthen Islam everywhere and protect it; may God bless and give you success; may God give success both to our own country and other countries as well as to the world's oppressed people. God bless you all.

KHOMEYNI'S 3 JAN SPEECH TO SORUSH JOURNALISTS

GF041656 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Jan 81

["Text" of address by Imam Khomeyni to members of Sorush press establishment when he received them 3 January--place not given; read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. All strata of the people who want to serve the revolution should have the same motives as this revolution, which sprang from the very heart of the people and whose motives and causes were determined by the people themselves. The Iranian revolution began motivated by Islam and sprang from a people who believe in Islam. It triumphed through these motives and causes. Therefore, any group that wants to serve should follow the same path and the same motives which have become a springboard for the victory of Muslims in Iran.

You all know that we would not have been able to achieve such a victory if the people lacked unity and faith in Islam. This is because at the time we had no military strength. All the attention of the people throughout Iran was concentrated on the need to preserve Islam, establish the Islamic Republic and eliminate the former regime. This in itself completely upset all calculations.

As for the opportunist groups which did not dare to voice their opposition at that time, now they are carrying out suspicious games. Therefore, the press should follow the true path of the Islamic revolution so that it can serve Islam and the country. The aim of our people, who have struggled and made sacrifices, is to be free from foreigners' control.

In another part of his speech Imam Khomeyni said: Persons wishing to work in sensitive posts should be evaluated by a specific body so that it will be possible to know who they are, who they were in the past, what their past actions were, where they studied, what they studied, their position prior to and after the revolution, and what their ideas were in the past.

If a deviant person should come and ask for penitence, his penitence will be accepted. However, we cannot make him an editor in chief of a newspaper. The two matters are different. Many persons may come forward and declare their penitence. Their repentance is acceptable, but we cannot charge them with an important task because we do not know what goes on in the mind of such a penitent: Is he truly repentant or does he want to deceive us with his words? His repentence will be accepted. We shall behave toward him as we behave toward all other Muslims in an Islamic society. However, we cannot put him in charge of radio and television, or place him at the head of a newspaper whose goal is to foster individuals and propagate the Islamic line. We must not be so naive.

There are many persons who in all their utterances cite Islamic sayings, Nahj al-Balagh [collection of sayings of 'Ali] and the Koran, but their true line is different. The motive of such people in this is to find a place for themselves in society so as to achieve their goals. Let us assume that a thief should come forward and declare his penitence. Well, penitence is acceptable. But would you give him your money for safekeeping? No, because we do not know the unknown. Perhaps the thief declared his repentance for ulterior motives. Our responsibility calls on us to accept his repentance, but we cannot deposit with him that which requires honesty and faith.

The nation's leader added: Among the important matters that should enjoy the newspapers' attention is the devotion of a few pages to the achievements of the Islamic Republic. It is said that Jesus Christ, may peace be upon him, was walking with his companions one day. They passed by a place reeking with the stench of a decaying dead animal. His companions expressed their dissatisfaction at the odor, however, Jesus Christ, may peace be upon him, said: How beautiful are this animal's white teeth. That is the way to teach mankind.

The achievements of the Islamic revolution should not be ignored. It has worked for the oppressed. It closed all the centers of corruption and built schools and houses for the people. We should not expect to accomplish everything in a short time in a society that is only 2 years old. One cannot expect a 2-year-old child to behave as a 40 year old. If an error should occur somewhere, we should not hold the Islamic Republic responsible.

I ask almighty God to preserve you and grant you success in the service of your country. Serve Islam if you are Muslims. Serve your people if you love the people. Serve your country if you love your homeland. Fear God in your writings and know that the pen in your hands has a responsibility to God. I ask Almighty God to support you all and grant you success. God's peace, mercy and benedictions be upon you.

KHOMEYNI MEETS WITH RAFSANJANI, OTHERS 5 JAN

LD051058 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Jan 81

[Text] Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly Hashemi Rafsanjani, Mohyeddin Ansari, the imam's representative to the Islamic Republic gendarmerie, Mohammad Javad Hojjati Kermani, a Majlis deputy, and Colonel Zakiyani, commander of the 64th Army Division in Urumiyeh, were received separately by Imam Khomeyni before noon today.

BANI-SADR ASSAILS SADDAM HUSAYN ON WAR

JN041924 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Text] In an article published by ENQELAB-E ESLAMI this evening, brother Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, said that he received an account of Saddam Husayn's statements in addition to the reports carried by world news agencies.

Within the context of his reply to these statements, the president said: Now that 3 and 1/2 months have passed since the outbreak of fighting, I find it feasible to address him:

First, when a ruler lies, he is destined to die sooner or later. Oh Mr Saddam Husayn, you are not the first nor the last ruler to utter lies. We are not the only ones who realized the lies contained in your speech to your Cabinet members in which you said that we have sent our planes to Pakistan. These exposed lies were made clear to the sons of my people and to my brothers, the sons of the Iraqi people. These lies are aimed at persuading the Iraqi people and their army that the secret behind the survival of the Iranian Air Force is its refuge in Pakistan.

Second, you said that had Iran recognized Iraq's rights and negotiated with you, you would have demonstrated more understanding and so forth. You, Mr Saddam, however, know well that it was the United States which encouraged you to launch this aggression, about which you said that it is aimed at making you the pivot of the Arab world or making Iraq a center of world strength in this part of the Middle East. These are merely the stupid dreams of a megalomaniac.

Third, if you believed in Islamic ethics, you would have realized that even if you were lucky, for example, and scored victory over our forces, this victory which you are talking about is nothing but a defeat for you. Wiping out a force that is newly liberated and supports the Muslim brothers in defense of their general rights is not a victory.

Fourth, why do we reject negotiations? Because you say that our government feels the responsibility and does not listen to objective words? I must remind him in this regard that sitting with the aggressor means approval of this aggression and this necessarily means giving the enemy all the privileges he is asking for. This is what we fundamentally refuse.

BEHESHTI, KHAMENE'I SPEAK ON ECONOMY, TRAITORS

LD021332 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Jan 81

[Text] The unifying Friday prayer today, like other Fridays, was held at Tehran University with the participation of vast groups of the trustees of the blood of the martyrs of the blood-stained Islamic revolution of Iran, under the leadership of Hojjat ol-Eslaw va Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i. At the start of this unifying ceremony, Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Beheshti, president of the Supreme court, gave a speech, during which he said:

[begin Behesti recording] How many months is it since this government has come to power? It is about 3 and 1/2 months. Can the economic problems that we have today be at all connected with the programs of the past 3 and 1/2 months? All those who are knowledgeable in economics know that if the government has been able to make proper economic planning, when will their results be known? In the future. [passage as heard] Our present economic difficulties have their roots in the past; it is very unfair if some people wish to attribute these difficulties to the faults of this government.

This morning I was given a newspaper, I wish I had brought this newspaper with me. Of course, it was one of these newspapers which has a very small circulation but which boasts a lot. I noticed that at the top of its first page it has published a resolution by some of the bazaar merchants in Tehran, a resolution which I was shown 20 or 30 days ago, and at the top of the resolution, with big letters addressing the prime minister, it is written: Mr Raja'i, you are not competent to do this job, resign from the post for which you are not competent.

I wish to know what economic miracle these bazaar merchants, who are involved in economics and who regard themselves as well-versed in economics, expect from the present government and its prime minister? Don't they know that our economic difficulties have nothing to do with the present government, or do they? If they do not know that these economic problems have nothing to do with this government, how is it that they regard themselves as experts in economic affairs, and if they know that these difficulties have nothing to do with this government, then why tell the prime minister: Mr Raja'i, leave to others the work that you are not competent for?

Apart from that, I wish to ask them who these others are who are known to these gentlemen but that you, the nation, do not know. Let them come and show us these others whom they have kept hidden behind veils so that we can see who they are.

Brothers, Sisters, be vigilant, a conspiracy is being planned. A number of people wish, through weakening the government, to create instability in Iran. Today our revolutionary society needs stability more than anything else. We condemn the spreading of any kind poison that will result in instability in the affairs of this country. [shouts of "God is great"] [end recording]

Then Hojjat ol-Eslam Val Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the Friday imam of Tehran, gave the prayer sermons, during which he said:

[begin Khamene'i recording] This matter has frequently been raised before, and today I find it necessary to tell you, brothers and sisters, that every action, every movement by anyone and under any pretext or slogan that will prevent the nation from achieving its basic, revolutionary duty which is struggling against the superpowers and their mercenaries--and which will divert their attention toward another direction is a traitorous action. [shouts of "God is great" and "Khomeyni is the leader"]

Treason starts with one traitorous act, but sometimes traitors make use of the weaknesses which exist sometimes among others and carry out their treason among unbiased people. Here, before this vast and great gathering, and at a time when revolutionary people who are praying have gathered together from all strata of society, I announce that any kind of strike, any kind of sitin, under any pretext, today is treason against Islam and Muslims. [shouts of "God is great" and "Khomeyni is the leader"] My sincere, believing, revolutionary brothers of the United Bus Company, in other departments, in other factories, you should know that the enemy has lost its hope in any other sources and has engaged in taking advantage of the weaknesses which possibly exist in some organizations in order to weaken this nation, however, this nation will not be weakened. This nation has derived its strength from Takbir [the slogan "God is Great" is known as "Takbir"], from the name of God and from the blood of its martyrs. [end recording]

BEHESHTI LECTURES AMBASSADORS ON OVERSEAS DUTIES

LD031810 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1642 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Text] The Central News Bureau reports that this afternoon, following a seminar session attended by ambassadors and charge d'affaires of the Islamic Republic of Iran, president of the Supreme Court Dr Beheshti met with these envoys at Dr Fatemi Hall in the Foreign Ministry. The meeting began with a report by acting foreign minister, Khoda-Panahi, on the seminar's work. This was followed by a speech by Dr Beheshti in which he stressed the policy of neither East nor West as an inviolable principle of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He added: This policy must be pursued as an inviolable principle. Under normal circumstances this would pose no problem. The important thing is to stick to it when facing crises, abnormal conditions and war.

Alluding to the duties of Muslim ambassadors and charges d'affaires, Dr Beheshti said: You should be able not only to express their views with regard to crucial problems, but also to act upon them, you should be so coordinated abroad as to be identified with Islamic principles. The president of the Supreme Council added: Within this context we have acted rather weakly and slowly, the fact that it has become necessary to seek instructions from Iran for minor problems shows that there is need for a fundamental change. All our departments, including the Foreign Ministry, and representatives abroad should be flexible in dealing with people in line with the imam's qualities.

Continuing his remarks, Dr Beheshti said: the Iranian Government's philosophy has not yet been altered to be in line with that of the Islamic Republic. Problems in the authorities' dealings with the people are still found in a great many places. People should be approached in such a manner as to bring to mind the government in the early Islamic period, the government of 'Ali, peace be upon him, and Salman, for this is an important issue.

Noting the responsibilities of the Foreign Ministry, the president of the Supreme Court said: The Foreign Ministry has two fundamental duties in addition to its day to day functions. The day to day functions involve attending to the problems and affairs of Iranians abroad as well as the affairs of foreign nationals in Iran, but these functions have assumed primary importance, while one sees no trace of the ministry's two truly fundamental duties. The first of these duties is the demonstration by all missions and by all embassy personnel, both outwardly and inwardly, of the (?aspects) of the Islamic Republic of Iran so that both the young people resident abroad and the host country are influenced. [Item ends without reference to second "fundamental duty"]

RAFSANJANI ADDRESSES ENVOYS ON FOREIGN POLICY

LD041448 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Text] Ambassadors and charge d'affaires of the Islamic Republic of Iran and representatives of Islamic associations of students abroad, held a meeting this morning in the presence of Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Hashemi Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Majlis. According to a Central News Bureau reporter, the meeting was held at the conference hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani gave a speech on the foundations of the foreign policy of an Islamic country. He said: The Majlis is responsible for researching and reviewing the present laws since the Majlis is the representative body of the people and has the right to intervene in the affairs of the country. The spirit governing the Majlis is at the service of the people and intends to maintain and follow this nationalist attitude. The Islamic revolution of Iran was a turning point for the oppressed masses of the world who are seeking the truth, since they have not benefited from humanitarianism or Marxism. You, Iran's representatives abroad, have the heavy responsibility of conveying the message of the Islamic revolution. Most of our affairs have not yet found their proper channel. Nothing has been done to explain our foreign policy and we should try very hard in this respect.

The speaker of the Islamic Majlis added: The foreign policy of an Islamic country has several principles, the first principle being reliance on weltanschauung and Islamic thought--we cannot rely more on any other principle. All representatives should be equipped with this ideology and teaching. The second principle is (?proper) confrontation with other countries and to maintain friendly relations with them. The third principle is that we should deal with the enemy from a position of power rather than weakness. The fourth principle is to fight against oppression.

Our representatives should not adopt a positon which is in the interest of oppressors and they should not be silent when faced with oppressors. If an unjust act is committed, witnessed by the representative of the Islamic Republic then it is an injustice committed against Islam. The fifth principle is to wage war against corruption and decadence. Since all the irregularities we witness originate from corruption, it should be uprooted. Corruption destroys the well-being of humans.

The meeting will continue this afternoon.

MAJLIS SPEAKER CITED ON CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES

LD021057 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 26 Dec 80 p 3

[KEYHAN correspondent's interview with Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi Rafsanjani: "Is the Constitution To Be Implemented?"--date and place not specified]

[Excerpts] In an exclusive interview with the KEYHAN correspondent Islamic Consultative Assembly Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Hashemi Rafsanjani gave his detailed views on the constitution and how it was to be applied, on unity between the people and officials and on complaints voiced over the failure by individuals and groups to implement the constitution.

In this interview the head of the legislative power also discussed the principle of the separation of powers, the drafting and ratification of laws by the Majlis and the delineation of the duties of the three powers, freedom for parties and associations, the limits to which their activities may run, and also the issue of the absence of laws and regulations to govern the duties of the various institutions.

In the interview the Majlis speaker also spoke of the future outlook for the implementation of the constitution and discussed the issue of supplementary provisions and the period required for the compilation of these.

The full text of the interview follows:

[Question] The view is currently being aired that the constitution is not being implemented. As head of the legislative power, to what extent do you deem such views correct. Do you consider them to be correct at all and where in your opinion do they originate?

[Answer] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. First, I think that the constitution is the most basic thing which all the forces supporting the Islamic republic should strive to implement, to uphold in dignity and to prevent from being weakened or violated for I do believe that this most important document, the constitution, is the pivot of our unity and the preserver of our solidarity, and of Islam. Should any crack appear--for example, should anyone say "it cannot be implemented" or "it is not correct"--this would be dangerous. The first task performed by the Majlis deputy was the oath he took to uphold the constitution, and the people should give it their support, too.

As for the second matter, I think that at present no force seeks to implement the constitution more than the forces of the imam's line, the leadership, the clergy, the revolutionary institutions, the Majlis and now the government--that is, they themselves are the true supporters of the constitution; they created it and they voted for it, and they know that if they support it, it will be preserved. I do not think that there is anyone more sympathetic to the constitution that the forces of the imam's policy; there is, however, a false current pervading the atmosphere of counterrevolutionary propaganda in Iran whereby [opponents] claim to support the constitution but in fact do not. In reality they take advantage of shortcomings and inadequacies, raising these topics in order to deceive the people.

In the early days, when the constitution was being drafted by the council of sages, there were those hypocrites outside the Majlis, as well as several self-styled, pseudointellectuals, and the liberals inside the Majlis, and even those in the government, who spoke with the same voice as the leftists and Savakists. At that time they wished to crush the council of sages, which was engaged in the drafting of the constitution.

These people are still with us, and they are agitating over the constitution not being implemented. You remember how, when the council had completed its work and we wished to submit it to a referendum, a group boycotted both the constitution and the referendum and were not even prepared to participate in the ballot and cast votes against it. Those who were then so sure that the constitution was against the interests of the nation and the revolution are now supporting it.

[Question] In your view, has the principle of the separation of powers suffered impairment; if so, do you think this arises from misinterpretation of the constitution owing to lack of experience or to basic differences in understanding and implementation?

[Answer] There is something which I must explain first to shed light on these problems. Lacking experience, our evolution progressed rapidly toward the establishment of civil institutions, of which the constitution is one. Subsequently, given that the erection of foundations for the constitution took place at this speed, there were naturally shortcomings and inadequacies arising from the lack of experience, both in the exposition and the application of the constitution. With good will, however, even supposing the constitution does indeed have its defects, we must still show respect for it and regard it as binding, and we should not allow its dignity to suffer. It contains many new provisions for which laws will have to be written and implemented. These include the courts of law, article 90 of the constitution and other instances--for example, the return of unlawfully acquired property to its rightful owners; the protection of those families without breadwinners; the creation of jobs for all the unemployed; the literacy campaign; free education up to the level of higher education; and the numerous facilities required by all the people of the country.

The president of the republic, the presidency of the republic are new concepts in our country; the relationship between the president and the Majlis needs regulating. The Supreme Judicial Council is a new institution. The exigencies of the revolution have imposed upon us a whole new series of institutions, for example, the holy wars [for reconstruction and so on], the revolution guards, the komitehs, the foundations and suchlike, all of which require regulation by law. Parties in our country are now free. We have become a multiparty nation and there should be legislation which takes account of this. The law must define for implementation compulsory conditions governing party activities, their freedom, and press freedom, so that there is no opposition to Islam, the Koran and so on.

In the early days, before we had the constitution, we rushed a law (not based on the constitution) through the Revolution Council, but now, when the Majlis is functioning, no laws have yet been passed relating to parties, organizations or clubs; all these need laws, and it is the duty of the Majlis to legislate.

[Question] What in your view is the long-term outlook for the implementation of the constitution, which is something we are experiencing for the first time?

[Answer] On the whole I think the future outlook for the constitution in Iran is fair, since the majority of the population voted for it, and will continue to support it with good will. I do not deny that we may come to understand in the future that there are defects in the constitution and that these must be eliminated. Of course, we cannot make prejudgments and specify precisely what these will be, but it is natural that in drafting the constitution, which was written so hastily after the revolution, with the needs and exigencies of the past revolutionary period not yet encountered, certain points were overlooked, or not viewed as they really were, and these issues must be clarified during implementation. In my view, if there is good will, and there is, and if the community preserves solidarity--that is, follows a single policy--and I hope it does, then the constitution will be implemented.

DIE WELT INTERVIEWS RAJA'I ON HOSTAGES, GOVERNMENT

DW051003 Bonn DIE WELT in German 5 Jan 81 p 5

[DIE WELT interview with Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i; date and place of interview not given]

[Text] The internal power struggle is smoldering in Iran behind the hostage affair and the Gulf war. In an interview with DIE WELT, head of government Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i accused President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr of working against the religious leadership of the country at the head of "so-called intellectuals oriented toward the West."

WELT: Who are the antagonists in the domestic struggle?

Raja'i: A small segment of the military and an infinitesimal group of so-called intellectuals oriented toward the West, headed by Bani-Sadr, are faced by the religious leadership. Our people, however, clearly vested the leadership in the clergy, and it will insure that the Islamic republic created with its blood will be fully implemented.

WELT: Who is currently determining Iran's foreign policy course?

Raja'i: The people's representatives in parliament, based on Islamic ideology.

WELT: Is the government committed to the instructions of parliament, that is to say, is it the mere executive organ?

Raja'i: In principle, yes. But a state of emergency is in force now because of the war.

WELT: Do you directly invite the advice of Imam Khomeyni prior to important decisions?

Raja'i: The imam does not interfere with daily politics, he just watches over the broad outlines and sets the course in the spirit of Islam. This is exemplified by my dispute with President Bani-Sadr over the staffing of the ministerial posts which are still vacant. Khomeyni has been asked to mediate several times but he refused on the grounds that we should solve our problems ourselves.

WELT: The hostages are still not free even though the United States has largely met the Iranian demands. Why are they not?

Raja'i: This is solely the fault of the Americans. They pursue procrastination tactics.

WELT: Is it solely up to your government to decide on the date of release of the American hostages or on their future fate?

Raja'i: Yes.

WELT: Are the 52 Americans still in the hands of the students now?

Raja'i: The students are pulling on the same rope as we are.

WELT: What would happen if the government were prepared to fulfill the four demands completely but the courts were to prohibit it from so doing?

Raja'i: Then we would have to wait and see. After all, this is a matter of agreement and good will.

WELT: Is there any room left for compromise?

Raja'i: I think I have already answered this question adequately.

WELT: Are you considering political aspects alone or do you also include humanitarian aspects?

Raja'i: Both.

WELT: Are any attempts being made to interfere with the postrevolutionary development of your country?

Raja'i: There certainly are; by foreign exploiters, above all by the United States. They impose economic sanctions on any country aspiring to independence. The economic blockade against us, combined with the war against Iraq forced upon us, shows this quite clearly.

WELT: Do you see Iran as being on the way to true Islam?

Raja'i: Yes, we are on the right course toward building an Islamic state.

WELT: Are you disturbed by your international isolation?

Raja'i: No. We realized beforehand that it was the price we would have to pay.

Raja'i's Office Disclaims Interview

LD042130 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Text] The public relations office of the Prime Ministry has issued a statement regarding a conspiratorial news report put out by the BBC.

The text of the statement issued by the public relations office of the Prime Ministry, which was made available to the Central News Bureau of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran a few minutes ago, is as follows:

Muslim, militant Iranian nation, the crushing torrent of the Islamic revolution of Iran has dealt such smashing blows at imperialism and Zionism that each day, in order to put the finishing touches to their plots, they design and implement a fresh plot. Those who witnessed you, the heroic people, foil all their plots in Kordestan, in Torkmen Sahara, Khuzestan, Tehran and other areas, and even saw that you were prepared to stand against the American economic blockade and its surprise military raid, brought the mercenary, puppet, traitorous Saddam regime into the arena of war against Iran. Now that they can observe that even the war can achieve nothing they have resorted to a fresh plot, an example of which is to bring about division and rift inside the country.

Tonight the BBC, that evil trumpet of colonialism, in continuing conspiracies hatched by imperialist news agencies and by Zionist network of such media, broadcast a report which it alleged will be published later in the West German newspaper DIE WELT. The public relations office of the Prime Ministry requests the dear compatriots, at this crucial moment, to maintain their revolutionary alertness and to carefully follow the activities of counterrevolutionaries at home and abroad.

Meanwhile, this is to inform the martyr-rearing Iranian nation that Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the prime minister, has so far given no interview to DIE WELT whatsoever, and that the BBC's report tonight about Mr Raja'i's interview is strongly denied. You conspire and God conspires; verily God is a greater conspirator. [Koranic verse]

[Signed] The public relations office of the Prime Ministry

DIE WELT: Interview Authentic

LD042306 Hamburg DPA in German 2228 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Tehran/Bonn 4 Jan (DPA)--The public relations office of the office of the Iranian prime minister, Mohammad Ali Raja'i, in a statement transmitted by Tehran radio this evening, strongly denied that Raja'i had given an interview to DIE WELT.

DIE WELT's editorial staff replied to DPA questioning with regard to this that there was "no reason to doubt the authenticity of the interview" which is to appear in Monday's edition of the paper. The answers to the interview questions, which had been posed in writing, had been sent to the editors on Friday from an Iranian colleague in Tehran.

RAJA'I ADDRESSES BUSHEHR FRIDAY CONGREGATION

GF021438 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 2 Jan 81

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, who is at present in the south of the country, today attended the Friday prayers in Bushehr after inspecting nuclear energy installations in the city.

In a speech to the Friday congregation Brother Raja'i said: There is nowhere in the world a leader like our leader. The whole world tried to find a weakness in the imam--in his thinking or in his conduct--but such attempts failed. They were ultimately compelled to admit that he is an ideal leader. While paying tribute to the sacrifices of the heroes of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the struggle against the mercenaries of the puppet Iraqi regime the prime minister said: The movement or our heroes will turn into an offensive in the future. We shall bring the traitor Saddam to a court of justice. We shall save the Iraqi people from these calamities.

Addressing the Friday congregation Brother Raja'i said: You must stand fast in the face of problems. You are in a state of war with the superpowers. Beware, the United States intends to strike at the revolution. While stressing the importance of Friday prayers the prime minister said: Friday prayers are a purely Islamic phenomenon. We should hold on to it vigilantly so that counterrevolutionaries will not be able to rob us of this great asset--an asset that will enable us to resolve all our problems.

RAJA'I RETURNS TO TEHRAN FROM BUSHEHR VISIT

LD030020 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 2 Jan 81

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i ended his tour of Bushehr this evening and left for Tehran. According to a PARS correspondent, the prime minister arrived in Tehran at 1730.

RAJA'I ATTENDS FOREIGN MINISTRY SEMINAR

LD031500 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1034 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Text] According to Central News Bureau correspondents the 5-day seminar of the Islamic Republic of Iran's ambassadors and charge d'affaires was opened this morning at the Foreign Ministry in the presence of Prime Minister Mohammad "Ali Raja'i and Foreign Ministry officials. According to the same report at the first session of this seminar the prime minister announced the agenda and then made a speech. During this seminar, which will be held for 5 days and in both morning and afternoon sessions, Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, Ayatollah Beheshti and Jalaleddin Farsi will make speeches. The seminar will discuss the formation of working committees, the preparation of programs commemorating the anniversary of the revolution, the foundations of foreign policy, Islamic associations abroad, financial and administrative affairs, formalities, [words indistinct], consular affairs and economic and international affairs. Ambassadors and charge d'affaires taking part in this seminar will also meet and have joint sessions with the members of the Majlis foreign affairs subcommittee, members of the cabinet [cabineh], and officials of the Ministry of National Guidance.

JUSTICE MINISTER AHADI COMMENTS ON RESIGNATION

LD031234 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1054 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Text] Ebrahim Ahadi, the justice minister, this morning gave an exclusive interview to a correspondent of the Central News Bureau and announced the reason for his resignation. In this connection the justice minister said: The Council of Guardians' interpretation of the powers of the justice minister is the main reason for my resignation. I do not believe in their interpretation, and therefore I thought that another person should hold this position. However, from the standpoint of the Cabinet [Cabineh] there was no problem whatsoever. This cabinet, which was set up in circumstances of war and under economic limitations, is functioning extremely well. An example of this is the minister of roads, whom I know better than other ministers. During this period he has carried out tasks which are not insignificant for a government.

Referring to the Council of Guardians' interpretation of the justice minister's powers he said: A minister holds an executive post, and so long as executive affairs do not intrude in the business of justice the tasks should be entrusted to the minister. Ahadi added: So far I have no information as to whether my resignation has been accepted, but I shall leave this post prior to the selection of the new minister.

Asked why he has not delivered the text of his resignation to the Supreme Judicial Council, Ahadi said: I think that the prime minister is in charge of the ministers and, therefore, I should and I did give my resignation to him. Of course the Supreme Judicial Council questions why I did not inform them. But since previous to that I had discussions on several sessions with the council about the duties of the justice minister and since we did not reach agreement, I therefore did not deem it as necessary.

In conclusion he said: I have a complaint against one of Tehran's evening newspapers about the publication of a letter which was connected with me and was published without my knowledge. I would like to say at this time that I did not place that letter at their disposal.

TEHRAN WARNS REAGAN TO ACT WITH RESTRAINT

GF031909 Tehran International Service in Urdu 1315 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary: "U.S. (?Conspiracy) Against Iran's Islamic Revolution"]

[Text] The ASSOCIATED PRESS reports from Kuwait that Saudi Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn Abd al-'Aziz has said that Saudi technical personnel have taken charge of the AWACS planes to keep track of the Iranian-Iraqi war. In an interview with the Kuwait's daily AS-SIYASAH, he said that Saudi Arabia intends to acquire more AWACS planes from the United States and it wants to train the technical staff to look after their maintainance. Prince Sultan, accounting for the presence of U.S. military personnel in Saudi Arabia, said: These people have come to Saudi Arabia to give technical help and their presence is quite logical.

The interview of the defense minister of the [word indistinct] Saudi Government clearly shows that Carter's statement that these planes will remain in Saudi Arabia temporarily is a lie. Sultan ibn Abd al-'Aziz' interview clearly shows that these planes will stay in Saudi Arabia permanently. It is also evident that Saudi Arabia will acquire more AWACS planes.

The planes in Saudi Arabia mean that the United States has decided to provide a permanent basis for its military activities in the Middle East. These planes have funished the American Saddam's government with much information. They are closely observing the movements of Iranian planes and interfering with them. U.S. hirelings are involved in the Iraqi Government's aggression, helping the army of Saddam. The United States, by sending AWACS planes, which are equipped with sophisticated radar devices, has directly involved itself in the Iranian-Iraqi war. Besides helping the government Saddam, it has also helped the government that usurped Palestine. The presence of AWACS planes in the region is dangerous for the anti-Zionist, revolutionary governments, and especially the armies of Palestine and Syria.

The permanent stationing of these planes shows that the United States has plans to carry out military conspiracies in the Middle East on a large scale. The election of Reagan as president, the appointment of General Haig, the former NATO chief, as secretary of state [words indistinct] Henry Kissinger's tour of the Middle East all show Reagan's military activities in the Middle East and [words indistinct]. Political experts believe Reagan will follow the same foreign policy as pursued by Nixon. But it should be recalled that the pivot of Nixon's foreign policy in the Middle East was the government of the deposed shah. His position was that of the gendarme of the region. This scheme was prepared by Kissinger. Reagan will modify this scheme and will execute this scheme in a different way. [passage indistinct]

As has been often repeated, instead of concentrating on any one point, he will unify the reactionary governments of the Middle East into a single front. The conference of reactionary Arab leaders was held for this purpose. This conference was boycotted by Libya and Syria. At the start of the conference, Reagan said that the Middle East is like a boiling cauldron and Jordan could ease the situation. Reagan's statement reflects his policy concerning the region.

The Islamic revolution of Iran has dealt a severe blow to U.S. imperialism and its allies. Reagan is furious over this fact. He wants to review Carter's foreign policy and add new dimensions to it.

Carter's policy toward Iran was an amalgamation of military threats and diplomatic maneuvers. [passage indistinct] Reagan is in a fix. He has two alternatives. The first is to use force and violence. This policy will have serious repercussions. The other alternative is diplomatic tactics. But from the very outset of his government, it is most likely that he will use force and violence.

Reagan and his colleagues should learn their lesson from the fate of Carter. [Passage indistinct] if the United States does not desist from its course and continues to support reactionary regimes whose he adds dare not face the masses in the open, [passage indistinct]. Reagan's threatens will fail to browbeat the Muslims of Iran. They will rather have the opposite effect, and the Iranians Muslims will intensify their struggle against U.S. imperialism, Zionism and [passage indistinct]

If Reagan goes ahead with his aggressive policies, they might result in the crippling of the Western economy and the destruction of oil wells in the Middle East, which are the life-lines of the Western economy. Reagan had better act with restraint. [Passage indistinct].

ZAHEDAN RADIO COMMENTS ON KISSINGER'S MIDEAST TOUR

GF021744 Zahedan International Service in Urdu 1530 GMT 2 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] Kissinger has once again undertaken a fact-finding tour of the Middle East. As-Sadat is dissatisfied with the fact that the process of implementing the Camp David accord has slowed down and King Husayn is eagerly awaiting Reagan's invitation to visit Washington. The Israeli Labor Party [words indistinct] that a Palestinian government should be formed under the patronage of Reagan. Behind-the-door-conspiracies clearly indicate that Kissinger's fact-finding tour of the Middle East is just another attempt to sow the seeds of dissension among the Arab nations and to disrupt the balance of power in the region.

Kissinger is touring the Middle East in most adverse circumstances when the differences between the Arab nations have reached their apex because of the war imposed on Iran by Iraq. The world of Islam and the Arab world should be prepared to face the consequences arising out of this tour.

TEHRAN: ANGLICAN ENVOY ATTESTS IRANIAN HONOR

LD031510 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1113 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary under title "Political Analysis of the Day"]

[Text] Terence Waite, the archbishop of Canterbury's emissary who returned to London after visiting some members of the Anglican Church in Iran who are in detention, reported on his trip at a press conference in London, saying that he was treated very kindly in Tehran and that he was respected as a religious leader. In his report he adds that all the detainees are in good health and are being treated with affection and kindness. The representative of the archbishop of Canterbury added that the people of Iran are honorable and faithful people and that we should respect them and try to understand their present problems. These are the words of a non-Iranian and even a non-Muslim person, and they clearly expose the disgrace of the propaganda campaigns launched by imperialist circles.

These views are expressed at a time when rumors about imprisonment and torture of the members of the Anglican Church are being trumpeted every day in the Western world, mostly in order to present Iranians as savages and uncivilized people and to provoke international public opinion against them, so that the pressure exerted by public opinion can start a wave of opposition against the Islamic revolution, and that this imposed pressure and the atmosphere it evokes among people can prepare the ground for anti-Iranian actions such as the torture and imprisonment of Iranian students and other Iranians and similar acts.

Meanwhile, Ronald Reagan, in connection with these confusion tactics, has commented on the savagery of the kidnappers of the hostages in order to demonstrate his power and also to raise the issue of savagery, danger money [presumably extra allowances paid to U.S. employees abroad] and the like which have repeatedly been used by colonialist circles in connection with Third World countries.

The words of the representative of the archbishop of Canterbury well demonstrated that the issue of torture and imprisonment of Iranian prisoners is connected with factors inside the country which have already given rise to many rumors. In many cases, people have been forced the believe these rumors before they are verified. What an English bishop says about Iranian hospitality and their good treatment of their prisoners cannot be fabrications and lies, since no national or ideological links exist to warrant such an assumption. Only the facts and the social and humane behavior of Iranians can make an Englishman comment honestly about Iran and Iranians and say that Iranians are an honorable and faithful people, that they should be respected and that we should try to understand their problems, inspite of all the poisonous propaganda of imperialists who try to tarnish the revolution and the Islamic republic. This is perhaps a good answer to imperialist press agencies and savages like Ronald Reagan who think that prisons everywhere are like the dreadful CIA or Pentagon prisons.

TEHRAN: MAINTAINING JORDAN-SYRIAN TENSION U.S. AIM

GF031718 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Text] Citing reports from Amman, PARS reports that David Jones the chairman of the U.S. joint chiefs of staff who is currently visiting Jordan, has held talks with shah Husayn and the commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces. The talks dealt with ways of enhancing the Jordanian Army's fighting capability and supplying Jordan with sophisticated arms.

Observers believe that these endeavors are aimed at perpetuating the tension between Syria and Jordan. By this method the United States wants to influence Syria's stand on the Palestinian question. The reports say that these developments are taking place at a time the Jordanian prime minister declared in an interview with foreign correspondents that a conflict between Jordan and Syria is inevitable.

It is to be recalled that the Jordanian regime has placed all its military resources at the disposal of the Iraqi regime in its war of aggression against Iran.

16 IRAQIS REPORTEDLY KILLED IN ANTIGOVERNMENT RIOT

GF041541 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Text] Our correspondent in Kermanshah says that reports from Iraq indicate 16 Muslim Iraqi brothers were martyred during a savage attack launched by the suppressive bloody authorities in Iraq against demonstrators in Karbala' and An-Najaf. The demonstrations were held in those two holy towns on the Arba'in of the leader of martyrs, Imam Husayn, may peace be upon him. During the demonstrations pictures of the leader of the oppressed, Imam Khomeyni, were carried. The report adds that 52 other persons were arrested by the mercenaries of blood sucker Saddam during the barbaric attack.

The Muslim masses in Karbala' and An-Najaf became upset and angry at this savage crime. They attacked one of the houses, setting it and four shops on fire and killing 4 policemen and wounding 10 others.

PAPER SAYS FRANCE GIVING OPPONENTS FACILITIES

NC041233 Paris AFP in English 1230 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Text] Tehran, 4 Jan (AFP)--An Iranian newspaper today accused the French Government of having given over barracks outside Paris to former soldiers of the shah and members of his secret police SAVAK so they could plot against the Islamic government.

The Paris correspondent of the evening paper ETTELA'AT which is close to the government, said the barracks, in a forest 55 kms [33 miles] west of Paris, were being used for military training by "counter-revolutionaries".

"According to reliable reports, the French Government is cooperating with the counter-revolution," the paper said. It claimed that counter-revolutionaries "collaborate with the police in denouncing Islamic students as drug traffickers, and the French police, without paying heed to the nature of the reports, question them for hours at a time."

"In the event of clashes between counter-revolutionaries and supporters of the Islamic Republic, the police openly support the former," the paper added.

ETTELA'AT listed the main fugitives in France as Shahpur Bakhtiar, the last prime minister under the shah, and General Oveissi, a former commander under the shah. Both men, it said, were in Europe to prepare operations against Iran.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUES 356, 357

356: 1 Jan Fighting

LD021820 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1639 GMT 2 Jan 81

[Communique 356 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The brave combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and other selfless national forces deem the defense of Islam and the Islamic homeland their most important objective and are sacrificing their lives in the expulsion of the invading enemy from Iranian territory. Some of the operations carried out within the last 24 hours by these vanguards are brought to the attention of the dear compatriots:

1. Yesterday as a result of firing by the fighting forces of Islam in the Marad region and the Abadan-Mahshahr axis 5 tanks, 4 vehicles, 3 mortar-launching positions, and 3 ammunition depots belonging to the enemy were destroyed and more than 23 of the Iraqi Army personnel were either killed or injured. In these operations 11 of our forces were martyred and 38 were wounded. Also as a result of firing by the fighting units of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the invading enemy's positions on the Abadan-Darkhovin road two enemy ammunition depots were destroyed.

2. Yesterday, although some parts of Ahvaz city were under fire from the enemy's long-range artillery with several residential houses being damaged, 1 person killed and 1 injured, the artillery of the Islamic Republic of Iran in this region destroyed with its accurate firing 6 tanks, 5 loaders and mechanical shovels, and 5 enemy vehicles and killed or injured approximately 84 Iraqi aggressors.

3. Yesterday fighting between the fighting forces of Islam and the infidel enemy continued around the Karun River and the artillery of the Islamic Republic of Iran's army opened fire on the Kut az-Zayn and Umm ar-Rasas regions.

4. Yesterday the enemy artillery shelled Dezful city, destroying four residential houses and injuring two civilians. In the same region, as a result of firing by our forces, one vehicle and a large quantity of ammunition belonging to the enemy were destroyed.

5. The courageous combatants of Islam opened fire on enemy positions around Susangerd and inflicted some losses on them. On this front one of the mobilization personnel was injured.

6. The exchange of artillery fire between our forces and the aggressive enemy continued in shush and (Jesr-e Nadri), but the situation at the fronts in Andimeshk is relatively quiet.

7. The fast-flying eagles of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran succeeded in bombing some of the enemy positions on the Abadan-Ahvaz and Abadan-Mahshahr roads and destroyed approximately 80 percent of enemy vehicles concentrated to the south of Susangerd. They also bombed oilfields and the pumping station in Al-Halfayah in Iraq and set it on fire.

8. Yesterday as a result of firing by the selfless forces of Islam on the Iraqi mercenaries' positions in the Sumar region, 4 squad trenches and a number of foxholes were destroyed and approximately 25 Iraqi Army personnel were either killed or injured.

9. Confrontations in Shur-e Shirin, Kani Sakht, Kanjan Cham, (Malekshahi), (Deri) and Amirabad heights between our forces and the enemy continued, and our mortars on the Kani Sakht axis succeeded in destroying an antiaircraft gun, a water tank, a fuel tank and nine squad trenches, killing the personnel in them.

10. Yesterday the armed assailants attacked the highway patrol station in Miandow Ab, as a result of which one NCO was injured and a number of illegal armed assailants were killed or injured. Assailants also attacked the military unit stationed in Piranshahr region and injured two soldiers.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

357: 3 Jan Wrapup

LD031756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1636 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Communique 357 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God, the combatant forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who are on the road to establish God Almighty's sovereignty and campaign against dirty infidels and mop up of the sacred frontiers of the Islamic homeland from the existance of blaspheming enemies, with resistance and firm determination and reliance on God Almighty, and who are on the road to victory, following [word indistinct] valiantly, are trying every night and are hoping their efforts will satisfy God Almighty.

Some of the events at the battlefield between blasphemy and Islam during 2 and 3 January are as follows:

In the Ahvaz region, following artillery fire by the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, three tanks, one bulldozer, one personnel carrier and two loaders were destroyed and four of the mercenaries were killed. Sporadic enemy artillery shelling was in progress intermittently from this morning hitting some of Ahvaz regions and in the course of these wild operations an officer of the state police was injured and one house and a bakery shop were destroyed. Some of Ahvaz's streets suffered minor damage and in a few places fire broke out which was later controlled and put out by the fire brigade.

On the Abadan front, the self-sacrificing revolution guards corps destroyed three military vehicles, four trailers, one bulldozer and six dump trucks belonging to the forces of treacherous Saddam. In the same operations a number of blasphemy's armed forces personnel were eight killed or wounded.

In the Dehloran region fighting between the combatant unit stationed in this region and the enemy's force broke out. In these operations the mercenary forces of Saddam, with the use of tank and personnel carriers and the support of artillery fire, tried to advance but our brave combatants, using fierce fire, in addition to checking the enemy's advance, forced them to retreat. In these operations one of Islam's brave guards was martyred and two were wounded; thirty-five of Saddam's soldiers were killed and two tanks and one armored personnel carrier belonging to them were completely destroyed.

In the Mehran region, with the heavy weapons fire of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, six enemy military vehicles carrying enemy personnel were destroyed.

In Gilan-e Gharb, an exchange of artillery fire between our forces' artillery and the Iraqi mercenaries' is in progress and clashes in the Shur-e Shirin heights, Kanai-Sakht, Konjancham and Mal-e Sheykh are continuing. At 1400 today two enemy helicopters flew over this region and one of them was downed by our forces' fire and was destroyed; the other helicopter fled the area. Four Iraqi invader aircraft were spotted by Hamedan, Bandar 'Abbas and Karaj radars and, following fire aimed at them by ground to air defense units, they fled. Meanwhile at 0730 today one F-4 fighter aircraft of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, as a result of an incident, crashed south east of Bandar 'Abbas. As a result of expeditionary operations by the ships and helicopters of the Navy of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran both pilots were brought to safety.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

AHVAZ RADIO CLAIMS USSR SENT 150 T-72 TANKS TO IRAQ

GF031645 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 3 Jan 81

[Text] Travelers from Iraq report that the Soviet Union has delivered 150 new T-72 tanks to Iraq. They are meant to rescue the Iraqi Army from the shortage it suffers and the quagmire in which it finds itself and to save it from defeat.

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI ON IRAQI MOHAHEDIN OPERATIONS

JN040837 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 4 Jan 81

[From the press review]

[Text] JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI quotes a report from one of the brothers of the Iraqi Mojahedin movement to the effect that fighting took place between Saddam's agents and the Iraqi Mojahedin in the city of Al-Hurriyah, which caused the death of 12 Iraqi mercenaries. The report also mentions that Iraqi Mojahedin have executed Col 'Abd ar-Rahman ar-Rawi, commander of the engineering battalion in the Iraqi Army, and that Iraqi authorities executed Maj Gen 'Abd al-Wahid on charges of slackness in carrying out military orders and of not advancing inside Iranian territory.

IRAQI MOJAHEDIN, GOVERNMENT FORCES CLASH

GF041332 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Text] PARS says that fighting involving artillery, heavy weapons and mortar fire continued on the western front during the past 24 hours. In the course of two military operations enemy positions and fortifications on the Sumar front were destroyed. The two operations resulted in the killing of five enemy personnel and in the wounding of a number of others; a number of enemy positions were destroyed.

The report says that, as a result of fighting that lasted several hours between Iraqi forces and opponents of the agent Saddam in villages surrounding the Sayyid Sadiq area inside Iraq, six Iraqi military personnel were killed. Two mojahedin who opposed Saddam's puppet regime were martyred.